

TITLE:	Progression Policy	NUMBER: 01-07
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Distribution:	Nova Scotia Health Learning Institute for Health Care Providers	Approval: Director

Policy

Policy statement:

Learners in Learning Institute educational programs are expected to successfully meet all assessment requirements in knowledge, skills and performance as specified by each respective course/program in order to progress to graduation.

Purpose of Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to provide consistent guidelines of expectations for successful progression in educational programs at the Learning Institute for Health Care Providers, and the process if a learner is having difficulty achieving satisfactory progression in meeting program/course requirements. Difficulty with progression can lead to several outcomes for the learner including but not limited to: remediation, learning plans, modification of study plan and disqualification.

Definitions:

Assessment requirements: Include, but are not limited to: theoretical examinations, assignments, OSCE/skills testing, online activities, simulation sessions and clinical competencies. Performance-based certification programs have assessments for knowledge, skills and performance outcomes.

Graduation: Successful completion of all requirements of a program as outlined in the respective syllabi, receipt of program record (transcript) and/or graduation letter/certificate.

Clinical practicum: The presence of the learner in the clinical setting, while in a learner role. The learner participates in educational activities and the delivery of health care. They are assessed by preceptor and/or faculty/instructor against performance-based competencies



Guidelines

- Learners and faculty are in partnership to facilitate the attainment of individual learning needs and the achievement of course/program outcomes. The partnership is grounded in the Philosophy of the Learning Institute for Health Care Providers; it is based on open communication, respect, collaboration, mutually established goals and reciprocal learning. A positive environment for learning must be supported and maintained.
- Learners must obtain a minimal grade as indicated in respective course/program syllabi in all prerequisite requirements (e.g., assessment points) in order to successfully meet course/program requirements and progress in program and/or clinical practicum.
- Learners must obtain the minimal grade in all components of a course/program to successfully graduate.
- Repeat assessment will occur following remedial instruction as follows:
 - a. Repeat knowledge assessment will be a supplemental exam or assignment. Only one knowledge re-assessment is permitted during the program/course.
 - b. Repeat skill assessment will be a re-assessment of the skill. Only one re-assessment per skill is permitted during the program/course.
 - c. Repeat performance assessment will be a re-assessment of the competency. Only onereassessment per competency is permitted during the program/course. If the learner requires reassessment on more than 50% of the competencies, they will be ineligible for re-assessment.
- Learners who are unsuccessful in passing a course in a program will be allowed to repeat that course (e.g. RN Bridging/Re-Entry Program). In all, only one course failure and one repeat attempt to pass that course will be permitted throughout the program. Learners may proceed with certain courses in a program before successfully passing a course, so long as the course failed is not a prerequisite for subsequent courses.
- Any learner who is unsuccessful at meeting more than <u>two assessment</u> requirements of a course/ Program must be referred by faculty to the Learner Progression Committee for review and guidance on additional strategies that could assist with learner success.
- Learners are expected to complete course/program requirements within designated time periods. Failure to do so may result in being disqualified from a course/program.



DEPARTMENTAL MANUAL Policy & Procedure

- Learners who are experiencing difficulty with progression will have a Learner Progress Report initiated. The purpose of the Learner Progress Report is to provide an equitable process for monitoring satisfactory performance in Learning Institute educational programs. The procedure provides a system for early identification of learner behaviours that need improvement to assist the learner's satisfactory progress through the program.
- A Learner Progress Report should be generated for all learners at risk of failing a course/program, or any reason as follows:
 - To report unsatisfactory performance or progress in a course/program when a learner is not following through on suggested learning plan strategies or using available resources
 - To inform a learner that unsatisfactory attendance in a course/program, may affect his/her ability to meet the course/program outcomes
 - To inform a learner that he or she has breached a significant Learning Institute or clinical site policy (e.g., violation of Academic Code or Professional Code of Conduct).
- The learner progress report will formally document the time, place and content of significant communications between faculty and a learner. The goal is to verify that the learner has received critical information about his or her performance in the course/program. Faculty and learner are required to sign following each new progress report. Discussion with faculty and learner may lead to the development of a formal learning plan/contract.
- Subsequent Learner Progress Reports that relate to the same issue will indicate this and refrain from repeating information already presented in a previous report.

Process

Learner Progress Report:

- 1. Faculties identify a learner who is having difficulty with course content and meet to discuss concerns. Learner Progress Report is completed.
- 2. This meeting should be timely, and faculty should notify learner of any theory deficiencies that could lead to an unsatisfactory grade in the course. If applicable a Learning Plan should be developed.
- 3. Completion of the Learner Progress Report and signing by the learner indicates they are aware of the concern and pending process.
- 4. After meeting with the learner and signing of the Learner Progress Report



by all parties, a copy of the Learner Progress Report will be place on the learner's file and, at the discretion of the faculty, sent to the Chair of the Learner Progression Committee if a review by the Committee is being requested.

- 5. If a Learning Plan has been initiated by faculty and the learner, it must accompany the Learner Progress Report. The Learner Progression Committee may recommend, based on the Learner Progress Report, that a learning plan be initiated.
- 6. Outcome will be finalized by the Learner Progression Committee and response communicated to requesting faculty and administrative staff using Learner Progress Report form within 5 business days of receipt of report.
- 7. Subsequent Learner Progress Reports that relate to the same issue will indicate this and refrain from repeating information already presented in a previous report.

Administrative staff will:

- 1. Use the Learner Progress Report form format any standardized letter indicated and give to faculty to review. Once signed, a copy will be :
 - i. Placed on the learner's file
 - ii. E-mailed to the learner
 - iii. Copied to the sponsoring employer, the Director and the Chair of the Learner Progression Committee.
- 2. File the form and any accompanying documents on the learner's file.

Related Documents:

Learner Progress Report